
**Welcome to the Community Resilience
Virtual Briefing
26 February 2021**

Topics to cover

- Virtual briefing to complement the weekly email briefing
- Covid update
- Lockdown review
- Council business this week - Communities and Place Committee and Council budget meeting next week
- Education and schools update
- Key contacts and ideas for future briefings please
- An uplifting short film from Millburn Academy Nurture Group

Covid update

- Covid positive tests are declining, but very slowly
- Infection rate has reduced again from 61.5/100,000 reported last week to 53.9/100,000 this week but still too high

- Need to stick with



**FACE
COVERINGS**



**AVOID
CROWDS**



**CLEAN
HANDS**



**TWO
METRES**



**SELF-
ISOLATE**

- Vaccination programme progressing well
- Starting to plan with NHSH for community asymptomatic testing – targeted approach

Lockdown review

- 3 weekly reviews on easing lockdown
- Strategic framework <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-strategic-framework-update-february-2021/pages/summary/>
- Tier 4 Lock down to continue until at least 26 April with some easing
- Phased return of remaining primary and some senior phase pupils from 15 March
- 5 April – stay at home removed and more retail open
- 26 April - Move to lower tiers with geographic variation
- More detail on next slide

SCOTLAND'S COVID-19: STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK - PLANNED EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

Gradual easings within Level 4, when data indicate it is safe to proceed.

Easings conditional on meeting the WHO's six conditions.

From 22 February **early learning and childcare** and **schools** open for Primary 1-3 pupils and senior phase pupils for essential practical work.

Limited increase in the provision for vulnerable children.

Care homes opening to facilitate meaningful contact between relatives/friends and residents.

Minimum 3 week gap, subject to conditions being met.

Second phase of **school reopening** (unlikely before 15 March).

University and colleges

Phased return of a further small number of priority students for in-person learning.

Non-contact outdoor group sports for 12-17 year olds subject to sport-specific guidance.

Socialising rules eased, to allow outdoor meetings of 4 people from 2 households.

Minimum 3 week gap, subject to conditions being met.

Stay at Home requirement removed.

Third and final phase of **schools reopening** if required.

Places of worship can open on a restricted numbers basis [20].

Retail: Essential retailers list expanded slightly and click-and-collect resumes for **non-essential** retail.

Minimum 3 week gap, subject to conditions being met.

Return to geographically variable levels.

Gateway condition: at least all JCVI Priority Groups 1-9 offered at least first vaccine and WHO's six conditions met.

Limited other easings within Level 4, including permitting non-essential work in people's homes.

Return to variable Levels approach, based on revised metrics in light of WHO guidance.

This will enable the graduated opening up of economic and social activity, at a pace that is safe given epidemiological conditions.

Increasing vaccine coverage over time should enable greater easing of restrictions.

World Health Organisation (WHO): 6 Conditions for safe easing

1. Transmission is controlled.
2. Sufficient public health and health system capacities are in place.
3. Outbreak risks are minimized in high vulnerability settings.
4. Preventive measures are established in workplaces.
5. Manage the risk of exporting and importing cases.
6. Communities have a voice, are informed, engaged and participatory in the transition.

Council update – Communities and Place Committee

C&P Committee met Wednesday 24th February. Agenda included:

- Community asset transfer
- War Memorial Conservation Agreement
- Progress with our framework for community involvement
- Police 6 monthly performance report
- Adjusting the C&P service and Covid impacts
- Support for businesses trading with the EU
- Budget monitoring – our budget gap is reducing
- Update on waste projects
- Responses to Scottish Govt consultations on:
 - Licensing short-term lets, to be implemented from April 2022
 - Welfare of animals during transport

Council update – Communities and Place Committee

- All the papers are on the Council's website and you can watch the recorded webcast (links in the email)
- Police 6 monthly performance report covers a range of crimes and prevention activity and the Chief Superintendent describes the impact of Covid on communities and the Police service
- The report on Covid impacts and service adjustments shows how we are trying to prevent service disruption that might occur because of:
 - Lockdown 2 requirements
 - Staff absence from Covid
 - New demands on our service – 7 new workstreams
 - Staff fatigue and pressure
 - Financial pressures

Council meeting next week

The Council will set its budget for 2021/22 next Thursday (4th March).

Papers with budget proposals will be on-line 26.2.21 (link in email)

Next week we can brief you on what has been agreed, key proposals are for:

- A budget for Health and Prosperity
- New investment areas including place-based opportunities
- Economic recovery and employment opportunities
- Visitor management
- Service transformation

Schools Update

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Ambitious



#Highlandaplaceto♡
www.highland.gov.uk
@HighlandCouncil

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Sustainable



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The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Connected



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Return to School



Guidance for Remote Learning in Highland January 2021

Please note the advice contained in this document is for the limited and sole purpose of responding to the challenges of teaching and learning in the COVID-context. The advice will be updated to reflect changing circumstances and pertinent departmental developments and best practice when appropriate.

Device Access in Highland & Background

All learners and educators in Highland are able to benefit from the digital infrastructure in Highland and the dedicated support for technology in education. The ICTiLearning strategy, part of the Education Improvement Plan for 2021-22 is structured around 4 key themes:

- Develop the skills and confidence of educators in the appropriate and effective use of digital technology to support learning and teaching.
- Improve access to digital technology for all learners.
- Ensure that digital technology is a central consideration in all areas of curriculum and assessment delivery.
- Empower leaders of change to drive innovation and investment in digital technology for teaching and learning.

Before Christmas 2020 the First Minister announced that most school pupils would learn remotely, rather than in school, until Monday 18 January 2021. On 4 January 2021 the First Minister confirmed that the Scottish Government had decided to extend this date and keep school buildings closed to the majority of pupils until 1 February 2021. This will be reviewed in mid-January. This change applies to all pupils, except vulnerable children, and children of key workers. It includes nursery provision, as well as primary and secondary schools.

The advice in this document is based on guidance from Education Scotland and also the Highland ICTiLearning Strategy. This document should support practitioners over the coming weeks, and supports practitioners to apply this understanding to their own specific context and professional practice.

Return to School

GUIDANCE FOR SUPPORTING SCHOOLS & LEARNERS WHO ARE SELF - ISOLATING

(Combined Learning approaches)



HOW SHOULD I USE THIS GUIDANCE?

Each school should work within its local context. Practitioners & Learners will all have different levels of digital skills

DIGITAL TOOLS FOR LEARNING

What platforms could schools use?



MIXED DELIVERY

Suggested approaches to learning

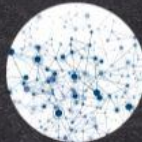
WELLBEING

What to consider first & key messages



SUPPORTING DIGITAL EXCLUSION

How to ensure all learners have a device & connectivity



HIGHLAND ONLINE RESOURCES

For pupils, staff & parents



SUPPORT FROM THE ICTILEARNING TEAM

Initial support & checklist for schools



PRIMARY & ELC SETTINGS

Advice & Guidance



EDUCATION SCOTLAND RESOURCES



SECONDARY SCHOOLS Advice & Guidance



CLICK ON THE HOTSPOTS FOR MORE INFORMATION

Return to School



“On Monday morning, the first thing our little primary one pupils did was to rush to hug each other with such happiness. It was absolutely heart-warming to see them showing such joy and affection towards each other.” – Highland Head Teacher

Return to School

Senior Phase





“It’s so lovely to have the buzz back in the place. I can’t wait to get the rest back.”
- PSA



“I’m just SO excited to be back to school to see my friends!”

- P2 child



“They’ve been back twenty minutes, and look how happy they are.”

- EYP

Risk Management

5 important steps

to help our schools
and childcare settings stay open



Adults wear a face covering
at drop off/pick up



Stick to one adult
at drop off/pick up



Adults keep 2 metres apart



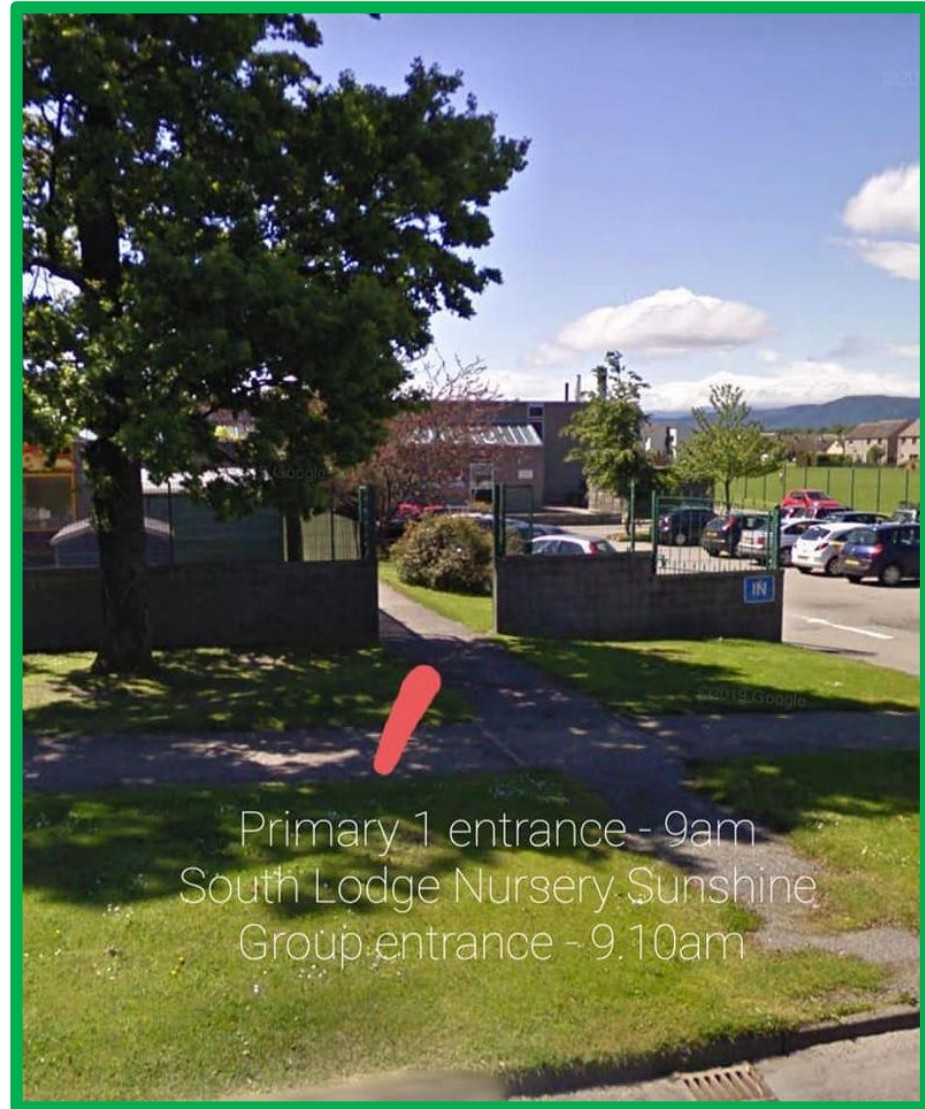
Avoid car sharing



Self-isolate if anyone in your
household has symptoms

For up to date information, support and advice
visit parentclub.scot

Protecting all of us, takes all of us



Risk Management – Covid testing

The Covid testing programme for schools is initially available to:

- all primary, secondary and special school staff. This is separate to the community testing programme.
- School staff include teachers, classroom-based support staff, administrative staff, facilities management staff (cleaners, janitors, etc) and other school-based staff who are critical to the effective delivery of school education
- **This programme is voluntary** – nobody should be required to undergo testing without consent, and nobody should be excluded from school if they do not wish to test.

Schools have been provided with packs of Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test kits

Schools have now distributed consent forms, privacy notice, information and guidance for staff & pupils and test kits have been issued

Staff and senior phase pupils will take test kits home and, twice weekly, perform the tests on themselves or with the support of a parent or guardian

They will then register both positive or negative results on a web-based portal, with the results shared with NHS Test and Protect.

Plans for Future



Thank you and stay safe

On behalf on Nicky Grant, our ECO for Education and Learning, we would like to thank you for taking the time to listen to these updates.

If you have any queries please contact us or look at our [Back to School Webpage](#)

Or follow us on Twitter-
[@NickyGrant10](#)
[@hc_south](#)

We would be delighted to support you and we value your feedback.

- For local resilience support – please contact your Ward Manager or policy6@highland.gov.uk
- For welfare advice and referring people - Welfare.support@highland.gov.uk
- For the vaccination programme NHSHighland.Feedback@nhs.scot

Please respond to policy6@highland.gov.uk if there are any items you'd like to see included in future briefings.

We plan to review the virtual briefing in mid May (after 3 months), and are keen to hear you views on how helpful this information is and what would make it better.

Thank you!

Finally, we would like to share this short video with you and our thanks go to the young people at Millburn Academy Nurture group for producing it.

Although filmed at Christmas time, before we went back in lockdown again, the message is clear and still relevant now.

What better way to demonstrate our vision for all and to show that we aim to be

Ambitious, Sustainable, Connected?

